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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/849,510	05/19/2004	Gregory John Billington	07703-340RE1	6776

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EXAMINER

BEAUCHAINE, MARK J

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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3653

NOTIFICATION DATE	DELIVERY MODE
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06/09/2011

ELECTRONIC

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

Notice of the Office communication was sent electronically on above-indicated "Notification Date" to the following e-mail address(es):

PATDOCTC@fr.com

Office Action Summary	Application No.	Applicant(s)	
	10/849,510	BILLINGTON ET AL.	
	Examiner	Art Unit	
	MARK BEAUCHAINE	3653	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 16 November 2010.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-8, 10-21, 24-29, 32, 33 and 36-40 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-8, 10-21, 24-29, 32, 33 and 36-40 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413) |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 3) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application |
| Paper No(s)/Mail Date <u>9/1/10</u> . | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

DETAILED ACTION

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

Claims 1-6, 8, 10-13, 15-18, 20, 24-29, 32, 33 and 36-40 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Patent Application Publication Number US 2002/0065579 A1 by Tedesco et al. ("Tedesco") in view of Patent Number 6,119,053 by Taylor et al. ("Taylor") in view of Patent Number 4,669,596 by Capers et al. ("Capers").

Tedesco discloses a money handling apparatus comprising first money handling device 140 that communicates between external controller 175 and further money handling device 135. Said first money handling device comprises a money handling apparatus, an internal controller, a first port connecting the device to the external controller and a second port connecting the device to the further money handling device (see Figure 2; and paragraphs 0034 and 0035).

Said internal controller communicates over the second port directly to the further money handling device using a communications protocol.

The internal controller of first money handling device 140 communicates with at least first and second different types of money handling devices 125, 130 and 135.

Tedesco discloses communications being relayed from controllers 160 and 161 through controller 175 to a further controller (*i.e.*, central server) (see paragraphs 0032 and 0033). Tedesco fails to disclose communications being relayed between controllers via the internal controller of said first money handling device. One of ordinary skill would consider relaying communications from further money handling devices 125, 130 and 135 via the internal controller of first money handling device 140 to external controller 175 for the purpose of bypassing defective communication lines within the apparatus.

Tedesco fails to disclose said first and second ports of the first money handling device controller communicating via protocols that are not fully supported by one another. Taylor teaches controller 102 that communicates from controllers 110 and 112 via first port 106, to further controllers 118 and 120 via second port 114 such that the communications protocol through the second port is not fully supported by said first port (see Figure 1; column 2, line 46 through column 3, line 7; and column 3, lines 59-64) for the purpose of processing money within said apparatus. It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to incorporate the communication configuration of Taylor into the apparatus of Tedesco for the purpose of processing money with said apparatus.

Tedesco fails to disclose said first and second port connections being removable. Capers teaches a money handling apparatus comprising money handling device 20 that is connected to external controller 18 via port 23 that is removably connected (see Figures 1-3 and column 4, lines 10-31) for the purpose of minimizing the time and

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expense of changing out apparatus components. It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to incorporate the removable connection configuration of the port of Capers into the ports of Tedesco for the purpose of minimizing the time and expense of changing out apparatus components.

Regarding claim 2, the first and second types of money handling devices of Tedesco include banknote validator 130 and card reader 120.

Regarding claim 3, Tedesco further discloses coin dispenser 135.

Regarding claims 4 and 12, Tedesco fails to disclose said protocol as being bus oriented. Taylor teaches said protocol being bus oriented.

Regarding claim 5, Tedesco fails to disclose said protocol as being an MDB protocol. Taylor teaches said protocol being an MDB protocol.

Regarding claim 6, Tedesco fails to disclose said internal controller distinguishing said further money handling devices. Taylor teaches controller 204 distinguishing between first and second types of money handling devices (see Figure 2; and column 4, lines 16-24 and 45-52) for the purpose of registering currency data. It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to incorporate the controller configuration of Taylor into the apparatus of Tedesco for the purpose of registering currency data.

Regarding claim 8, Tedesco discloses the controller of further money handling devices arranged to copy communication signals between first and second ports without modification thereof (see paragraph 0031, lines 26-31).

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Regarding claims 10 and 11, Tedesco fails to disclose communication signals between said first and second ports being modified. Taylor teaches communication signals between first and second ports of controller 200 being modified prior to output such that they are recognized by an external controller for the purpose of communicating currency data. It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to incorporate the signal transfer configuration of Taylor into the apparatus of Tedesco for the purpose of communicating currency data.

Regarding claim 13, Tedesco discloses communication signals being stored in a memory prior to output (see paragraph 0031, lines 26-28).

Regarding claims 15-18, Tedesco discloses money handling devices being configured to process currency of different units of money value and transfer currency data between them and said external controller. One of ordinary skill would consider converting said different money units of value and totalizing said units for the purpose of registering currency amounts processed by said apparatus.

Regarding claim 20, Said protocols of Taylor are transmitted to and from said controller such that it receives and transmits codes indicative of different types of money handling devices.

Regarding claims 24, 26, 28 and 32, Tedesco fails to disclose the money handling apparatus of the first money handling device being a banknote validator. Tedesco discloses a limited number of money handling devices in communication with each other and with external controller 175. One of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention would consider configuring the banknote validator 130 of Tedesco to

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communicate as a first money handling device between said external controller and further money handling devices for the purpose of registering currency data.

Regarding claims 25, 27, 29 and 33, Tedesco fails to disclose the money handling apparatus of the first money handling device being operable to return change. Tedesco discloses a limited number of money handling devices in communication with each other and with external controller 175. One of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention would consider configuring the change returning device 135 of Tedesco to communicate as a first money handling device between said external controller and further money handling devices for the purpose of registering currency data.

Regarding claim 36, one of ordinary skill would consider configuring the first and second ports of Tedesco being configured as not having a common electrical connection for the purpose of communicating currency data.

Regarding claims 37-40, Taylor teaches said first and second ports of the controller using different protocol versions and different protocols.

Claims 7, 14, 19 and 21 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Tedesco in view of Taylor.

Tedesco discloses a money handling apparatus comprising first money handling device 140 that communicates between external controller 175 and further money handling device 135. Said first money handling device comprises a money handling apparatus, an internal controller, a first port connecting the device to the external

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controller and a second port connecting the device to the further money handling device (see Figure 2; and paragraphs 0034 and 0035).

Said internal controller communicates over the second port directly to the further money handling device using a communications protocol.

The internal controller of first money handling device 140 communicates with at least first and second different types of money handling devices 125, 130 and 135.

Tedesco discloses communications being relayed from controllers 160 and 161 through controller 175 to a further controller (*i.e.*, central server) (see paragraphs 0032 and 0033). Tedesco fails to disclose communications being relayed between controllers via the internal controller of said first money handling device. One of ordinary skill would consider relaying communications from further money handling devices 125, 130 and 135 via the internal controller of first money handling device 140 to external controller 175 for the purpose of bypassing defective communication lines within the apparatus.

Tedesco fails to disclose said first and second ports of the first money handling device controller communicating via protocols that are not fully supported by one another. Taylor teaches controller 102 that communicates from controllers 110 and 112 via first port 106, to further controllers 118 and 120 via second port 114 such that the communications protocol through the second port is not fully supported by said first port (see Figure 1; column 2, line 46 through column 3, line 7; and column 3, lines 59-64) for the purpose of processing money within said apparatus. It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to

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incorporate the communication configuration of Taylor into the apparatus of Tedesco for the purpose of processing money with said apparatus.

Regarding claim 14, Tedesco discloses the content of some communication signals being copied between first and second ports of said controllers without modification.

Regarding claim 19, Tedesco discloses money handling devices being configured to process currency of different units of money value and transfer currency data between them and said external controller. One of ordinary skill would consider converting said different money units of value and totalizing said units for the purpose of registering currency amounts processed by said apparatus.

Regarding claim 21, Said protocols of Taylor are transmitted to and from said controller such that it receives and transmits codes indicative of different types of money handling devices.

Response to Arguments

Applicant's arguments with respect to claims 1-8, 10-21, 24-29, 32, 33 and 36-40 have been considered but are moot in view of the new ground(s) of rejection.

Conclusion

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to MARK BEAUCHAINE whose telephone number is (571)272-6934. The examiner can normally be reached on 8:00AM through 5:00PM Mondays through Thursdays.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Stefanos Karmis can be reached on (571)272-6744. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

/MARK BEAUCHAINE/
Examiner, Art Unit 3653

mjb